

Cattle and Calves

Arizona's inventory of cattle and calves on January 1, 2004 was estimated at 850,000 head, up 10,000 head from the previous year. The 2003 calf crop of 270,000 was unchanged from 2002. The value of cattle and calves on January 1 was \$697 million, up 9 percent.

Monthly beef cattle prices varied by \$14.70 per hundredweight during 2003, from a low of \$77.10 in January to a high of \$91.80 in November. The marketing year average price for beef cattle increased \$14.20 per hundredweight from a year ago to \$83.30. The annual average steer and heifer price increased \$14.10 to \$83.50 per hundredweight and the annual average calf price increased \$1.20 to \$99.50 per hundredweight. The annual average price for cows increased \$7.30 per hundredweight to \$42.50.

Cattle and calf marketings were up 1 percent to 904 million pounds and the gross income from these marketings increased 21 percent to \$763 million.

Arizona's feedlot operators marketed 335,000 head during 2003. Feedlot inventories ranged from 266,000 head on June and July 1 to 291,000 head on February 1.

Arizona's 17 livestock slaughter plants produced 425 million pounds of red meat during 2003, down 5 percent from the 2002 slaughter. Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 547,100 head, down 5 percent from 2002.

Cattle Inventory January 1, 1992-2004

(000) All Cattle

